

Correspondents sending in letters or reports for insertion in Saturday's Chronicle, and those who should be brief are requested to let us have them on Friday, where at all possible. Otherwise insertion in Saturday's issue cannot, owing to want of space, be guaranteed.

TO ADVERTISEES.

Advertisers will kindly send in all advertisements for standing advertisements on Friday mornings. We cannot guarantee to insert in Saturday's issue any advertisement received after 2 p.m. on Friday.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

(ESTABLISHED 1766)

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1929

IRELAND AND AVIATION.

Colonel Fitzmaurice is certainly doing a man's part in stimulating Irish interest in the subject of flying. Anyone who looks to the future must be convinced by this time that aviation as a means of communication between one country and another is bound to expand and develop. As it is, we have commercial services for passengers in America and Europe, and flights are taking place to India and other distant parts of the world. Ireland's geographical position renders it peculiarly suitable for aviation enterprise, and this is what Colonel Fitzmaurice, one of the heroes of the "Bremen" flight last year, emphasised in a lecture which he delivered in Dublin on "Ireland's Place in the Air." He considers that Ireland has a very bright future before her "as the eastern pillar of the bridge connecting the old and the new worlds." A little consideration of the subject must satisfy us of the foresight and accuracy of the heroic Colonel's views or anticipations. An Irish air service would induce more tourists to come to Ireland, at all events, those of them who regard time as money would certainly avail themselves of the speediest means of communication at their disposal. And here it is where the development of aviation is of much importance to Ireland, as is already the case in other parts of the world. If we are not alive to the march of science "the trophies and spoils" will, as Colonel Fitzmaurice says, "go to other people." The Irish Aero Company and the Irish Air Transport Company are contemplating as a start a regular air service between London and Dublin. A proposition has been made to the Government, and deserves, as Colonel Fitzmaurice says, every support and encouragement, as undoubtedly the proposed service would be of great advantage to this country and bring us into line with similar systems in Great Britain. Aviation is yet in its infancy, so to speak, but it has wonderfully expanded in the past decade, and it will calm the fears of people who hesitate to embark on an air flight to learn from the lecturer that not a single fare-paying passenger was killed from any air line in Europe in the past four years. This is a remarkable record of safety in flying.

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Heat Wave.

From the Arctic conditions, of the past few weeks we are suddenly plunged into real summer-like weather. Most people think the heat has come too soon, and so it has; but whether it remains for long or short, we are safe in assuming that the severities of winter have at last passed, and that we can now realize that spring-time, with all its genial and invigorating associations, has come none too soon. Yesterday and to-day saw continuous sunshine in this country, but across the Channel the hot sun is even more oppressive. Still, we cannot discard our winter clothing, and with frosts and fogs overnight, and no one can be certain of the vagaries of the weather. The change is most beneficial to the farmer in enabling him to resume his work on the land, which was greatly retarded by the exceptionally harsh conditions of February. The present spell of warm weather facilitates tillage operations, and will soon promote growth on the pastures, while the trees are ready to shed forth their budding foliage. The swift change is as remarkable as it is welcome, and the British Air Ministry is unable to foresee any break as yet in what is officially termed "very nearly a heat wave." And yet, three weeks ago London was skating, and householders were suffering from a shortage of water.

BUS ACCIDENT NEAR CHARLEVILLE.

Limerick Conductor Fatally Injured.

A tragic fatality took place near Charleville last Sunday, as a result of which a young man named Peter Keenan, about 25 years, a native of Limerick City, and employed as a bus conductor in the I.O.C. service, succumbed to injuries received by being knocked down and run over by the bus on which he was acting as conductor. It appears that about 12.30 p.m. an I.O.C. bus, proceeding from Cork to Limerick, stopped near Cregane Cross, about 1 1/2 miles on the Limerick side of Charleville, so as to enable the conductor to deliver a letter to a woman named Mrs. Numan, who lives in the vicinity. The conductor, having dismounted, was passing round the rear of the bus, and the driver, thinking he was clear, reversed the bus towards the cross, and, unfortunately, struck the conductor, who was knocked down on the roadway. The full weight of the vehicle passed over his body and inflicted terrible injuries. Medical and spiritual aid was immediately summoned. Dr. O'Donnell, of Charleville, and Rev. Fr. Smith, G.C., were promptly on the scene, and the Civil Guards, under Sergeant Armstrong, it was deemed advisable, owing to the precarious condition of the injured man, to have him immediately removed to Green County Hospital, and the Rev. Father Smith, G.C., volunteered to drive him in his own car. The unfortunate man died on the way to hospital. The driver of the bus was Patrick Lannigan, 13 Davis-street, Limerick.

The Inquest.

An inquest was held yesterday at Croon Hospital by Mr. Coroner Clery, Kilmallock, and a jury. Supt. J. Holland, Bruff, represented the police authorities. Evidence of identification was given by Andrew Kearns, brother of the deceased. The evidence tendered showed that after passing Cregane Cross the bus stopped to enable the conductor to deliver a letter at a cottage in the vicinity. When the conductor passed to the rear of the bus he tripped and fell, and the driver having reversed the bus, the vehicle passed over the unfortunate man's body, inflicting serious internal injuries, to which he subsequently succumbed. Patrick Lannigan, of 13 Davis-street, Limerick, the driver of the bus, after being cautioned by the Coroner, said he wished to give evidence. On Sunday last he was driving a bus from Charleville to Limerick. He left Charleville at 12.30 p.m. Just after passing Cregane Cross the conductor asked him to pull up, as he had a letter to deliver at the cottage at the cross-roads. Before leaving the bus, after passing the cross, the deceased told witness he was jumping off the bus, and told him to come back after him. Witness passed the remark that it would be all right and that he was reversing the bus. The deceased made no answer, but jumped off. He jumped off as the bus was coming to a standstill. At the time witness started to reverse the bus the deceased started to reverse the car. He had hardly started to reverse the car when he felt a bump on the back wheel at the left hand side, and thinking it was a stone he began reversing. The next thing he saw was the conductor lying on the road in front of the car. The front wheels had cleared him. Superintendent Holland—How can you explain about the front wheels clearing him? Witness—When I got out he was doubled up, and his knees were up to his chin. His feet were out towards the grass. The front wheel just cleared his feet. How many years experience have you as a driver?—Nine. There are a number of young children living in the cottages at this spot?—Yes. Would you not consider it a necessary precaution then to sound the horn before you started to reverse the car?—I had passed the cross at the time, being 50 yards beyond it. I intended going back to the cottages. Dr. Bernard O'Donnell, Charleville, stated that about 1.0'clock on Sunday he was called to attend to the deceased, who was lying on the roadside at Cregane. When he arrived he found the deceased in a lying condition. On examination he found several external marks on the body, contusions, etc. He had heard the evidence offered, and was of opinion that the cause of death was due to external injuries, which could have been caused by being run over by a bus. The jury, of which Mr. James Moriarty was foreman, returned a verdict of accidental death and exonerated the driver from all blame. The driver, Patrick Lannigan, was subsequently brought before a special Court at Bruff and charged with causing the death of deceased. He was remanded on bail to Kilmallock Court on Thursday.

The Funeral.

The remains were interred this evening in Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery. The body was removed from Croon Hospital last night, and arrived in the city before 9 o'clock. It was removed to St. Michael's Catholic Church, where it rested overnight, the bier being followed by a large body of mourners. There was a large attendance at the funeral this evening, a fact that showed the popularity of the deceased and the sympathy felt for his family in their bereavement.

PARTEEN MURDER TRIAL IN DUBLIN.

Opened Yesterday.

In the Central Criminal Court yesterday, before Mr. Justice Johnston, a young man, John Joseph Cox, pleaded "not guilty" to the charge of murdering Jacob Kunz, a German foreman, at Parteen, Co. Clare, on December 31 last. Mr. W. Carrigan, K.C., and Mr. Dudley White, K.C. (instructed by the Chief State Solicitor) prosecuted. Mr. J. J. Kavanagh (instructed by Mr. Thomas Attwell, solicitor) was assigned as counsel for the defence. Five jurors, who stated that they conscientiously objected to capital punishment, were ordered to stand by. Presenting the case to the jury, Mr. Carrigan said that Jacob Kunz was murdered between 3.30 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, December 31, at a place that would be called sometimes Parteen and at other times Ardacrusha, meaning the same place. As the names implied, this murder was committed in an area where the Shannon scheme was being carried out, and there was no doubt that Kunz, a German foreman, was murdered at the time mentioned. He was murdered, it is feebly, killed by a blow of an iron bar on the head. That bar had been found at a spot indicated, where Kunz had been walking along the extension line. Kunz was found in a serious condition by Michael Lynch, another workman. He was able to articulate, but they could not understand what he was saying. He was taken to the engineers' office, and later to St. John's Hospital, where he died. Kunz was insured for his money. The prisoner was employed as a foreman of a gang three years ago, but a change took place, and last December the foreman was Kunz, and not Cox. Kunz had saved a considerable sum of money, which for safety, he carried on his person. He had in his vest inside pocket—the total amount was £409 10s; but when found he had lost over £80 10s. Kunz was probably the last man to leave work that evening. The police evidence—which left nothing undiscovered except that they had no witness who actually saw the fatal blow given—would be that of all the persons engaged in the work that evening, the man in closest proximity to Kunz at the time he was attacked was the prisoner.

The prisoner refused point blank to give any information of his movements after 5.35 p.m. on the day of the murder. The police knew that he had changed £1 notes that evening. Witness K. R. was found in his pocket he said that he had no more, but when the Guards found two £1 notes in his possession he said that he was keeping those for Christmas. The prisoner made an extraordinary statement, in which he contradicted two original statements. A letter by the prisoner to his wife was found in a parcel by the Guards, who described the highest commendation for the manner in which they had followed up the case. "You cannot," said Mr. Carrigan, "discover crimes and murder with rubbers and eggs, or with passports, and the action of the police in this case to discover the author of this crime discloses some clear pieces of defective work." In consequence of the letter the Guards found hidden in a ruined house £78 in single notes and three 10s notes, supposed to have been the money which the deceased man had in his possession when murdered. Sergeant Edwood, Engineer and Mapper to the Guards, produced maps of the scene of the murder, which he explained to the judge and the jury. Guard M. Skel produced photographs of the locality which he had taken. Mr. Timothy Clery, Civil Engineer, gave evidence of measurements. He said that the distance from where the iron bar was found to where Kunz was found was 227 feet. Kunz was found 457 yards from where he had been working. Michael Lynch and Oolan Fitzgerald, engineer, deposed to having found Kunz after he had been attacked. The latter stated that Kunz attacked. "Mr. money, my money," and showed witness his pocket. There was blood on his face, and there was an iron bar about 25 yards away. Johann Kunz said that the deceased (his brother) received 26 a week. His wallet was missing. Cross-examined by Mr. J. J. Kavanagh, who (instructed by Mr. T. Attwell) defended, the witness said that he also earned 26 a week, and that they paid each a week as rent of the last. They occasionally sent £10 to their mother in Germany. W. Dietrich, engineer, said that the prisoner was in his office at 5.37 p.m. on the evening in question and asked if he would be allowed to continue working, although he had been forbidden to do so by a doctor on account of an injured head. J. O'Dwyer, supervising clerk, said that he paid the prisoner £2 5s. Sergeant Higgins said that the prisoner was among a number of men who were brought to John-street Barracks in connection with the robbery. The prisoner produced 10s and said that that was all he had. Witness found two £1 notes in his possession, and he said he was keeping them for Christmas. Asked where he got the yellow mud on his trousers and boots, he said he got it on the streets of Limerick.

CHILD WELFARE.

Annual Meeting of Ennis Branch.

Mrs Vere O'Brien presided at the annual meeting of the Ennis Branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, in the Town Hall, Ennis. The other members present were—Mrs. Knox (Secretary), Mr. Alex. Knox (Treasurer), Mrs. C. E. Mahon, Mrs. A. Greene, Miss Mollie Byrne, Mr. and Mrs. Vere White, Mrs. McKenna, Mrs. Coghlan, Mrs. Ovens (Chairwoman), Mrs. H. Webster, Mrs. Vere O'Brien, Mr. M. J. Connolly (Town Clerk). Apologies for non-attendance were received from Lady Inchiquin and Mr. Justice Gleeson. The Organising Secretary for Ireland, Mr. John W. Storey, M.B.E., was also present. The Hon. Secretary's report showed that from March, 1928, to February, 1929, the cases dealt with by the Society involved the welfare of 25 children—11 boys and 14 girls. They also involved the prosecution of 6 men and 4 women. The collections in Ennis this year amounted to over £19. A flag day realised £11 15s 7d. She wished to thank all those who had subscribed. The Branch should be self-supporting and if the subscriptions were not coming in they would have only to depend on other branches. Mr. Storey delivered an address, and a vote of thanks to Mrs. Vere O'Brien concluded the proceedings.

LECTURE ON ARCHITECTURE.

There was a large audience in the Coliseum on Sunday night, when Mr. George P. Sheridan, F.R.I.A.I., delivered a lecture on the architectural beauties of the Eastern Mediterranean. Mr. G. R. Ryan, C.E., presided, and the address was in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul District Nursing Association. The lecturer, in the course of an instructive address, applied a historical touch to his subject, going back to an early date. He described the very many fine examples of ancient and modern buildings to be found along the Mediterranean littoral, especially in Greece. These he illustrated, and at the close he was thanked by the Chairman for his interesting lecture.

CROSS COUNTRY.

Limerick Runner's Success at Phoenix Park.

The Northern and the military athletes captured the principal honours in Saturday's All-Ireland senior cross-country championship at Phoenix Park. The first man home was Private T. Panning of Limerick, whose time was 56 minutes 33 seconds, his nearest attendant being (2) W. McGilroy of Willowfield, (3) T. F. Smythe of O'Gallagher's M.B.A. (4) T. Kinisella, Army, Metro. (5) M. Conlan, Portlarrington. (6) H. Russell, Willowfield. (7) P. McCollly, Limerick Army.

Invitation to the Mayor.

The Mayor (Mr. M. J. Keys) has received a letter from the Rev. Father O'Reilly, Dub general secretary to the Catholic Emancipation Centenary celebrations, stating that had been directed by the President, Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Harty, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, and the Ceremonial Committee, to invite his Worship to the centenary of the Blessed Sacrament. The Mayor has replied accepting the invitation and thanking the President and Committee for the signal honour conferred upon him.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING SCHEME.

The scheme formulated by the Corporation for the building of sixty houses in the area which was held up consequent on the grant money being allocated, has sanctioned by the Ministry for Local Government. Yesterday a wire was received from the Town Clerk to the effect that the Ministry had approved the Borough Mayor issuing certificates for the scheme. This is quite satisfactory, and demonstrates the value of perseverance. The first instance the Ministry pointed out that they could only allow certificates if the erection of sixteen houses was pressed they increased the number to twenty, and as a result of a deputation to the Council, and after some delay, they consented to the full scheme being taken by the Corporation.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' RESIDENCE.

At the meeting of Limerick Council on Saturday, Mr. Hannahan moved, and Mr. O'Connell seconded a motion to give permission to County Board of Health to raise a loan of £2,500 for the purpose of providing residence for Dr. O'Connell, Medical Officer of the County Hospital at Croon. Mr. Hession moved as an amendment the proposal be deferred until the Council knew what relief to the rates would forthcoming from the building. Mr. Hannahan said the Medical Officer of the Hospital was willing to pay a rent of £25 per year. A proposition by Mr. Keogh, seconded by Mr. O'Connell, was declared passed.

FILM AND HAIR FASHION REVUE.

The fair sex naturally took a keen interest in the Film and Hair Fashion Revue by Eugene, Ltd. Presented by the proprietors of which appeared an advertisement in our last issue, at the Royal George Hotel, Limerick, at 3 p.m. to-day. A truly demonstration will be held this evening at 8 o'clock. A special feature will be the showing of the firm's new film, Waves, supplemented by a parade of mannequins featuring the newest coiffure styles, and a demonstration of the Eugene method of permanent waving.

NO ROAD GRANTS FOR CO. CLARE.

The Secretary of the Clare County Council has received a letter from the Local Government Department stating that no road grants will be issued to Clare during the coming year, because the County Council refused the County Surveyor's estimate and did not make themselves liable for what the Department considered a "reasonable" amount of the cost of road upkeep. The Department trust that the Council will review the matter, and the Minister will be prepared to consider an application for such department from the Public Bodies Order as may be necessary and feasible to enable the Council to re-open the question.

AT THE MEETING OF LIMERICK COUNCIL.

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BY WIRE AND PHONE.

TO-DAY'S NEWS.

THE KING.

Benefits by Sunshine. It was stated on good authority to-day that the King had passed a good night. The hour he spent in the open air and warm sunshine yesterday has had a good effect on his spirits, and it is hoped he will be able to take another outing in to-day's warm and sunny weather at Epsom. The Press Association understands that a dentist visited his Majesty on Sunday.

CHARGE OF WIFE MURDER.

Thomas Henry Jackson (35), fish sales man, again appeared in the dock at Swansea Police Court to-day, charged with murdering his wife Kate Jackson, who was known as "Madame X," and who was found with head injuries outside their bungalow at Mumbles on February 4. Prosecuting counsel said on February 4 Mr. Jackson and a woman neighbour were to a cinema. On returning screams were heard. Mrs. Jackson was found a few yards from her door. Her husband was trying to raise her from the ground. She died six days later without making a statement. Jackson told the hospital doctor he did not know who his wife really was.

TRAGIC HUT FIRE.

John Thomas Rice and Samuel Stanboj were burnt to death in a steambath at Wigfoft, near Boston-Lines, last night. They were partners, and slept in the hut. Rice was blind, and lived with his wife who is also blind, at Boston. Stanboj lodged with them. They spent the week ends at home, and returned to the hut Monday morning.

ANOTHER ROUND-UP IN DUBLIN.

Seventeen young men were arrested in a round-up in Dublin during the night.

CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION CENTENARY.

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